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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 1, 2011

VA Black Hills Recognizes National Healthcare Central Service/Sterile Processing Week

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Black Hills Health Care System Central Sterile Supply Department (CSSD) professionals are being honored for their important role and commitment to patient safety during the annual National Healthcare Central Service/Sterile Processing Week, October 9 -15, 2011. The International Association of Healthcare Central Service Materiel Management (IAHCSMM) represents approximately 16,000 CSSD professionals in the U.S. and abroad who facilitate the procurement, management and processing of surgical supplies and equipment.

CSSD professionals are responsible for processing surgical instruments, supplies and equipment. These individuals provide support to patient care services with their responsibilities encompassing cleaning and decontamination, sterilization, assembly, storage, and distribution of surgical instruments needed for patient care.

If you or someone you love has undergone a surgical procedure, a CSSD professional was directly responsible for the cleaning and sterilization of the instruments used throughout your procedure.

Please remember these dedicated CSSD professionals during National Healthcare Central Service/Sterile Processing Week October 9-15, 2011. For questions or more information on the CSSD program at VA Black Hills contact Cynthia Thomas, RN, Chief SPD and RME Coordinator at 605.347.2511, Ext. 97424.

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